

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**September 3, 2013**

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The Jasper County Board of Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present was the Auditor of Jasper County, Kimberly K. Grow; Deputy Auditor, Donna J. Horner; Highway Engineer/Supervisor, Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney who represents the Commissioners, Eric Beaver. Mr. Culp called the meeting to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jasper County Prosecutor, Kathryn O'Neill.

PAYROLL CLAIM & ALLOWANCE DOCKET: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the Payroll Claim & Allowance Docket for the check date equal to August 30, 2013. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CLAIMS: Mr. Culp had a question regarding check #75601 to Penny & Farthing Holdings, LLC in the amount of \$3,500.00 for morgue holding fees. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the claims as submitted with the exception of check #75601 which will be held for further review. Upon review, Mr. Culp was given approval to proceed with payment. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on August 5, 2013 and the Continued Meeting held on August 16, 2013. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

BURIED CABLE: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the following buried cable permits submitted by CenturyLink. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CENTURYLINK:

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| ACT #13123732 | For the purpose of boring under CR W 1100 North to place a buried service wire to provide facilities in Wheatfield Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #671) |
| ACT #13037520 | For the purpose of boring under CR W 1100 North to replace a deteriorated buried service wire in Walker Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit # 672)           |
| ACT #13123732 | For the purpose of replacing a bad section of telephone cable in Marion Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #673)  |
| ACT #13123739 | For the purpose of boring under CR 900 West to place a new buried service wire to provide facilities in Union Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #674)      |

PROSECUTOR / REPLACEMENT HIRE: Kathryn O'Neill, Prosecuting Attorney, stated that today is her last day. Ms. O'Neill explained that Jim Lakin will automatically take over by statute until there is a caucus. Duke Critser, Republican Chairwoman, is planning on October 1 as the date for the caucus. Notice will have to be sent out within 10 days of today and a meeting has to be held within 30 days. Ms. O'Neill stated that Christine Haskell is hopeful to be her replacement. Jim Lakin will be staying on as a Chief Deputy and Clair Beaver has been hired as a replacement 3<sup>rd</sup> Deputy. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the hiring of a replacement within the Prosecutor's office. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

ANNUAL REPORT / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Bill Wakeland, Director/Community Corrections, presented a copy of the Annual Report to the Commissioners. The Annual Report is a requirement by the Department of Corrections.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS / REPLACEMENT HIRES: Mr. Wakeland reported that they have received the resignation of a part-time Correctional Officer and a full-time Correctional Officer effective yesterday. Permission was requested to fill these two (2) positions. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the replacement of the part-time and the full-time Correctional Officer. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

RECLASSIFICATION OF JOB TITLE / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Mr. Wakeland stated that permission was requested last year to hire a part-time Matron. Mr. Wakeland requested permission to change this title to Correctional Officer/Matron. The reclassification would simply allow a little more flexibility when it comes to scheduling. The position would remain part-time. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the reclassification of the part-time Matron position to part-time Correctional Officer/Matron. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT / COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Mr. Wakeland stated that, as of July 1, there is a new federal regulation called PREA which stands for Prison Rape Elimination Act. The goal is to eliminate and prevent sexual misconduct within the correctional system. The Advisory Board has already approved the PREA policy. As part of the requirement, a PREA audit has to be done every three (3) years. The estimated cost to have this audit completed is \$8,000.00 - \$10,000.00. If there is an incident of sexual misconduct, we will be responsible for all medical care and, if needed, mental health care. In order to meet the standards, we will have to hire at least one (1) more part-time Correctional Officer – possibly two (2). Two (2) additional part-time positions were requested from the Council at budget time. Permission was requested to hire at least one (1) more, possibly two (2), Correctional Officers after January 1. These positions would be paid from the Project Income Fund. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve up to two (2) new part-time positions for Community Corrections. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

FALL CONFERENCE / AUDITOR: Auditor Grow requested permission for herself and two (2) employees to attend Fall Conference on October 22-25 in Indianapolis. The county car will be used. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

NW DISTRICT MEETING / ASSESSOR: Dawn Hoffman, Assessor, has requested permission for three (3) people to attend the NW District Assessor meeting which is being hosted by Jasper County. A tour of the new Pig Adventure will start the day with the meeting following at Sandy Pines on September 19. Expenses include a registration fee of \$17.00 per person. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

AFFILIATE MEETING / SURVEYOR: Vince Urbano, Surveyor, requested permission to attend the County Surveyors Affiliate Meeting on Tuesday, September 24 from 8:00 – 12:30. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS CONFERENCE: Dianne Richardson, Democratic Chairman and Election Board Member, has requested permission to attend the 2014 Election Administrators Conference in Indianapolis from December 16-18. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY YOUTH CENTER: Mr. Culp reported that Gibault has chosen to not renew their contract. We currently have two possible successors to Gibault. One of the possible successors, Christy Stowers, currently operates three preschools in the DeMotte/Wheatfield area. Ms. Stowers stated that, after reviewing the reports, she has figured that it would take approximately \$14,950.00 per month to run the building. With the current enrollment, Gibault is bringing in \$9,600.00 per month. In order for us to come in, we would need a substantial amount of money to back us. According to the reports, the current utilities run approximately \$11,000.00 per month. Ms. Stowers stated that she realizes that it is a larger facility; however, this amount still seems a little excessive. Mr. Culp stated that the second entity that has expressed interest would favor purchasing the facility.

JASPER COUNTY YOUTH CENTER CON'T: Attorney Beaver explained that there are several different alternatives and the law does provide for the property to be disposed, retained, leased, or sold as the case may be. Depending on who it is sold or leased to, there are different issues that may arise. If the County was to want to maintain the status quo of there being a youth center / daycare center in operation, there is a good chance that the County would need to obtain a license to operate the center. The Department of Education does allow for probationary licenses which are good for six (6) months. As far as leasing or selling the land, there is a statute in Indiana Code that allows for county land to be leased or sold. Ordinarily there is a process where there needs to be a valuation and a public notice given to any potential purchaser or to a tenant as the case may be. This statute does not apply if the buyer or lessee would be a not for profit Indiana corporation. It is possible that one of the potential successors would fall into this category. Another concern is if one of these successors would be affiliated with a religious organization; there is a constitutional restriction as to how the transaction can be structured so that we do not violate the establishment clause that separates church and state. There is language in the deed that came from St. Joseph College that limits the use of the structure and the use of the land to be a community youth center. Clarification is needed from St. Joseph College as to the meaning of some of the words that are in the deed. Further discussion took place. A discussion will need to take place with the attorney for St. Joseph College, Ed Dumas. Mr. Culp stated that we need to let the record show that Jasper County will not be assuming their responsibility in the operation of the Jasper County Youth Center as of October 1.

AMBULANCE SERVICES / BID ACCEPTED: The following two bids were received at the August meeting: (1) Prompt Ambulance Service - \$17,500.00 per month and (2) Heartland Ambulance Service - \$18,250.00 for one (1) ALS ambulance or \$35,000.00 for two (2) ALS ambulances. Mr. Culp stated that the County currently pays approximately \$600,000.00 per year for subsidy. The subsidy for the township providers is based off of the central bid. At the cost of \$17,500.00 per month, the cost for the County will raise approximately \$120,000.00 more annually in subsidies for ALS services. The two-year contract will begin January 1, 2014. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to accept the bid from Prompt Ambulance in the amount of \$17,500.00 per month subsidy for the years 2014 and 2015. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

COURTHOUSE ROOF / FINAL PAYMENT: Mr. Haberlin stated that the extra work for the courthouse roof was approved at the August meeting. We have received the final payment in the amount of \$59,215.45. This amount is the remaining half of the retainage.

RENTAL OF MAN LIFT / SURVEYOR/EXTENSION OFFICE: Mr. Haberlin stated that the Surveyor is willing to paint the three (3) light poles and the flag pole that are located at the Surveyor/Extension building. Quotes were received on the cost of renting a man lift. The quotes ranged from \$745.00 to \$1,500.00 per week. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the rental of the man lift for \$745.00 per week from One Source Rentals, Lafayette. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve attendance for Kendell Culp, Richard Maxwell, James Walstra, Jack Haberlin and Kimberly Grow to attend the Commissioners Conference. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

STOCKMAN FURNITURE SERVICE / QUOTES: The following three (3) quotes were received from Stockman Furniture Service to strip and refinish more woodwork within the Courthouse:

South west side of the west entrance -	\$7,350.00
Womans bathroom -	\$3,200.00
Mens bathroom -	\$4,100.00

Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the three (3) quotes as submitted. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

EXTENSION OFFICE / GALAXY IV CONFERENCE: Sharon Blasky and Bryan Overstreet, Extension Educators, would like permission to attend the Galaxy IV Conference on September 15-20 in Pittsburg, PA. The majority of the trip will be paid for by Purdue University. The county portion will cost approximately \$200.00. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

SHERIFF / NORTH ANNEX BUILDING: Sheriff Risner expressed concern with the exterior west wall on the Sheriff/North Annex building. The wall is bowing out and Sheriff Risner is concerned that there could be water infiltration. Discussion took place in regards to the possibility of the Coroner using a portion of this building for a morgue. Sheriff Risner also stated that we did have a carpenter ant issue on the west side at one time as well. The suggestion was made to contact Arab Pest Control.

LITTLE COUSIN JASPER FESTIVAL / SECURITY: Sheriff Risner stated that he has reviewed the Little Cousin Jasper schedule that was provided to him. Funding is available to provide for 14 hours of total security. Three (3) hours (4 p.m.–7 p.m.) will be provided on Friday; eight (8) hours (10 a.m.-6 p.m.) on Saturday; and three (3) hours (10 a.m.-1 p.m.) on Sunday.

PETA / POSSIBLE PROTEST: Sheriff Risner reported that he has received word that PETA is expected to show up and protest at one of the dairies sometime this month. They are allowed to protest as long as normal procedures are followed – no blocking of roadways, interfering of traffic or the operation of the facility.

EQUITABLE SHARING FUNDS: Sheriff Risner stated that the State Board of Accounts advised him that, in regards to the equitable sharing, we can't continue to pay operational expenses on the correctional part of the jail facility with utilities. It's a supplemental and assistance fund, not a replacement fund. The claim has already been submitted for the last months billing on the utilities. We are at \$208,439.00 spent on operations of the facility. There is permissible use for a one-year payment of salary and equipment for a Drug Interdiction Unit. At the end of that year, the government body has to agree to pick up the expense. The Council has agreed to pick the funding up after the first year is over. We have been extremely active with the interdiction unit on a lot of local issues.

JASPER COUNTY JAIL FACILITY / UPDATE: Tom Alstott, EMCORE, and Kurt Stevens, KB Solutions, were present to give an update on the jail upgrade. Mr. Alstott reported that a walk-through with some of the subs will take place this Thursday at 9:00 a.m. with a kick-off meeting taking place the following week. Mr. Alstott will e-mail an Application for Construction Design Release for the Commissioners approval. In response to a question, Attorney Beaver replied that a wage scale does not apply to this contract. Mr. Stevens reported that he received from EMCORE several pages of data on what they were doing. Mr. Stevens checked this data against the prints and the scope that we expect to get. So far, everything is pretty much in agreement. Mr. Stevens also stated that Tom Durkin, Durkin & Villalta Partners Engineering, did research for us to attempt to figure out why we cannot get the VAV boxes to work properly. Mr. Durkin has obtained some information on how to physically test these coils. Mr. Walstra requested that pictures be taken before any changes take place for documentation purposes.

**AFTER THE JASPER COUNTY REGIONAL WATER & SEWER DISTRICT MEETING:**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / UPDATE: Kevin Kelly, Economic Development Director, stated that the annual report will be going out via email this week.

SURVEYOR / GUTS ISSUE: Vince Urbano, Surveyor, stated that they had an issue pop up last week regarding the integration with GUTS. The issue was caught on the ditch (the Hoover) that was done last winter coming into spring. Rhonda Eldridge, Drainage Board Secretary, explained that GUTS asked for the first ditch that we were going to send out tax statements on (Hoover Ditch). GUTS requested Rhonda's information for them to input so that they could create a program that she would be able to export to the Auditor's office. Mrs. Eldridge provided them with the certification and assessment role. Once this was done, bills were sent out. It was then brought to our attention that some of the bills did not match the public hearing notices. On the assessment role, everyone within the watershed should total 100%. GUTS used the percentage rather than the cost per acre (\$2.64/acre). Because GUTS went by the percentage, some people are coming out to \$13.29/acre rather than the \$2.64/acre.

SURVEYOR / GUTS ISSUE CON'T: After contacting Sarita, GUTS, she has stated that we (the county) are doing it wrong and that there is no such thing as a minimum. Mrs. Eldridge stated that we have emailed her the state statute of the minimum. We have two more ditches that are supposed to go out within the next month. Mr. Culp stated that he will contact Eric Goodnight, GUTS.

There being no further business, Mr. Maxwell made a motion to continue the meeting on an as needed basis only. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

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Kendell Culp, President

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Richard E. Maxwell, Vice President

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James A. Walstra, Member

ATTEST:

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Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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